

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Both broadcasting the news and listening to it,
has become a daily mental exercise; ~~it is really a conflict of~~
~~with~~ ^{us} puzzle our way between the rival claims of the governments
at war. The most impartial news ^{at the moment} comes from Kiruna in Sweden,
one of the two great Swedish mine fields far above the Arctic
Circle. ~~It is~~ One of the most important places from which Hitler
has been getting supplies of ^{that} invaluable Swedish ore, some of the
best in the world. The United Press correspondent at Kiruna
reports that the road from Narvik to the Swedish border is dotted
with German and Norwegian dead, lying in the snow. ^{Also that} There are
more than a thousand German, Norwegian and British ^{dead} ~~corpses~~ at the
bottom of Narvik harbor, as well as forty ships, German, British,
Norwegian and neutral. Among those ships ^{of the first} ~~on~~ the bottom ~~of the~~
~~harbor~~ is a British cruiser.

He also reports that the entire German occupation force

7
in the Narvik area is ^{now} cut off by land and sea and can only get supplies through the air.

But here's what the Germans have to say: The military communique ^{from} ~~at~~ Nazi headquarters declares that the situation in Narvik is unchanged. And it adds that a report that British troops forced their way into Narvik is without any foundation, ~~whatever~~.

~~The German communique~~ ^{It} then goes on to claim that the Germans at Narvik have been reenforced, and are thrust out along the railroad to the Swedish border. One Norwegian division ~~was~~ ^{obliged} ~~forced~~ to retreat, suffering heavy losses; and, two hundred Norwegians withdrew across the border and were interned. That part of it ^{in fact} is confirmed by the Norwegians. But, they claim that the Germans in Narvik are ^{now} surrounded.

The Germans go on to say that the British action in Narvik was merely for propaganda purposes. Also, that the iron ore railroad to the Swedish border is in German hands.

It seems to be a fact that the Germans have captured and occupied Kongsvinger near the Swedish border. That much is

48
admitted by the Norwegians, who fell back to prepared positions without loss of life. Correspondents say that the Norwegian resistance is tragically hampered because Norwegians find it difficult to tell friend from foe. Every fighting force is filled with doubt as to who might and might not be a Nazi-sympathizer ^{that is} among the Norwegians.

The British announce a successful airplane raid on the Nazi airdrome at Stavanger. But the Nazis are still holding the place. The Germans, on the other hand, claim to have bombed a British battleship, three cruisers, and a troop transport. They say they landed a direct hit with a huge bomb on the ² British battleship. The British, on their part, admit that one cruiser was damaged by a bomb from the air. But the Admiralty says the British ship, after being struck by the bomb, was able to get back to its base.

The Germans ~~also~~ ^{now} announce that they have tanks and armored cars in Norway. Motorized and armored forces have appeared on a large scale near Oslo.

49
From Sweden it is reported that Swedish soldiers are digging in along the Norwegian frontier. And the atmosphere in Sweden is frightfully tense.

SWEDEN

A member of the British Cabinet today made ~~an ominous~~ prophecy. He predicted that the next country to be attacked by Hitler would be Sweden. ^{Said he! -} "For the next month the Nazis will try to bluff the Swedes, urging them to comply with German demands, and if she does, dear Grandmother Germany won't touch a single hair of her head." ^{Then he went on! -} "After that, when the ice in the Gulf of Bothnia melts, Germany will start a sharp treacherous attack in order to get the ~~xxx~~ iron ore fields for herself."

^{Ronald Cross,}
Such were the words of ^{Great} Britain's Minister of Economic Warfare. And ^{uttered the following} he ~~put out~~ warning to the Swedes: "We are ready to give them every help if they are attacked," said ~~the~~ ^{he,} ~~minister,~~ "but let them see to it that they are not taken by surprise. We must ask them to do everything possible to help themselves."

This same Cabinet speaker then turned his attention to Italy. He referred to the virulent attacks that have been made in Italian newspapers on England. Speaking to the Cabinet, he said that probable Italy wishes to be treated as a neutral but Italy must behave as one. The British want to know where they stand with Italy.

AMERICANS

During ^{all these} ~~those~~ chaotic ^{days} ~~conditions~~ in Norway, it has been impossible to get any ^{direct} news of the ^{many} American citizens ~~over~~ ~~there.~~ ~~those parts.~~ But today the State Department ^{did get} ~~got~~ word from Scandinavia. The First Secretary of ^{our} ~~the~~ Legation at Oslo reports that so far as they know, all the Americans in that neighborhood are safe and well. ^{also} The legation is doing its utmost to arrange to repatriate American citizens, but ^{it} ~~anything~~ ^{has} ~~practical has~~ been impossible ~~yet.~~ ^{so far.}

And here's a rather significant word from our Consul-General at Stockholm. All the American citizens in the Swedish capital have been urged to send their wives and ^{— out of the city,} children ^{into} the country. The possibility exists, that in case of certain contingencies, Stockholm may be evacuated. So it would be a wise precaution for Americans to send their wives and children to the country, soon.

JUGOSLAVIA

Here's a curious bit of news from the Balkans. It's announced in Belgrade that the Yugoslav Government is about to negotiate a trade agreement with Moscow. Now Yugoslavia is looked upon as being decidedly within Mussolini's sphere of influence. And Mussolini still looks upon the Bolsheviks with scowling eyes. That's what makes the announcement from Belgrade so puzzling. For it is believed that the trade agreement will be merely preliminary to the resumption of diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviets. And it is to be presumed that the Duce ^{won't like that.} ~~wouldn't care much for that.~~

TURKEY

Just a few minutes ago a bulletin came from Istanbul, in Turkey. ~~that~~ ^{It} sounds portentous. It hints that the next outbreak of the war may be in southeastern Europe. The British ambassadors and ministers to all southeastern countries, including the Balkans, have been away from their posts, attending a conference in London. When they return, something is going to break, probably hostilities in that part of the world. So say observers at The Golden Horn.

CANADA

The British paid a signal compliment to the Canadians today. One of the most picturesque and ancient ceremonies in London is, ^{as you know, the} changing ^{of} the guard ^{at} Buckingham Palace. That function was entrusted today to a crack ^{non-English speaking} Canadian regiment, the Royal Twenty-Second of Quebec. ^{and} It was quite an event in London. From a balcony in the palace, King George and Queen Elizabeth watched those six-foot French-Canadians going through ^{the} that ceremony, and down the street a huge crowd of Londoners looked on from every point of vantage. After it was over, King George went down to the palace court and congratulated ^{the} Colonel ^{of the} ~~Flynn~~ ^{handsome Quebec banuclos,} ~~the officer commanding that famous Quebec regiment.~~

GREENLAND

The case of Greenland came up in Congress today.

3
Republican Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts wants Uncle Sam to establish a temporary protectorate over the one-time country of Leif Ericson. Said the Congresswoman:- "I believe that this country should definitely notify all European ^{nations} ~~countries~~ ~~and this~~ ^{ing} includes England - that any attempt to occupy Greenland by any country will be considered an unfriendly act, and the United States will oppose any such action." And she added:- "I believe this Congress should notify our dilatory State Department to establish a United States protectorate over Greenland until such time as Denmark regains her sovereignty."

Meanwhile, the State Department is preparing to open a consular office at Reykjavik, capital of Iceland.

Whenever I've been out of town for the past few months, I've noticed one consistent fact. The further west you go, the more hostile are people to the idea of America getting into the war. Senator Adams of Colorado gave some expression of this in the ^{U.S.} Senate today. The upper House was considering a bill which included an appropriation of fifteen million dollars to build new locks in the Panama Canal. It was that which aroused the ire of the Colorado Senator. He declared that the Senate has been stampeded into extravagant appropriations for alternating locks in the Panama Canal just because of the imaginary danger of war. ~~He said:~~ "I know of no imminent danger to the United States and I know of no powerful enemies," he *shouted*.

If the Colorado Senator went a thousand miles west from his home town, and listened to the people on the Pacific Coast, *there* ^{would} he ^{hear} plenty about ^{possible} powerful enemies.

The ~~Colorado~~ Senator's plea for economy ^{fell on deaf} ~~didn't get~~ ears. For ~~to first base as~~ the appropriation went through, ~~in spite of~~ his protest.

RELIEF

There was a conference at the White House today, and the outcome spelled bad news for Uncle's pocketbook. Congressional leaders, including the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House, met with the President to talk about relief.

When the conference was over, it was announced that President Roosevelt is going to send a message to Congress tomorrow, ~~a~~

~~message on ^{TP}the relief fund.~~ This is no surprise. It has

been foreshadowed for some time. The one million dollars which

the President thought would last until June will soon be

exhausted. Hence, the message that Congress will receive tomorrow.

The guessing is that he will ask for another half a million, —

five hundred thousand dollars.

PATMAN

The chain store syndicates throughout the United States received help from a new source today. A sub-committee of the House heard additional evidence ~~today~~ about the Patman Act, the bill offered by a Texas Congressman to put chain stores out of business. ^{Today} ~~an~~ important union leader spoke up for the chains, ~~today,~~ ~~It was~~ the President of the International Typographical Union. And he was testifying because, as he put it, a lot of printers would be thrown out of work if the chain stores are taxed out of existence. ~~A~~ ^A great many papers, both daily and weekly, particularly in the small cities, could not meet operating expenses without the advertising from the chain stores, ^{said he.} Tax the chains out of business, ^{declared} ~~said~~ this head of the printers' union, and you will find newspapers from coast to coast, from border to border, ^{going} ~~will~~ ^{on the rocks.} ~~As it was, fifty-one, will be established~~ well established newspapers went out of business in Nineteen ~~Thirty Nine.~~

KLAN

~~Astonishing~~ News from Atlanta, the home of the Ku Klux Klan.

There's to be no more night riding, no more wearing of masks, no burning of fiery crosses without the approval of officials of the Klan and the permission of property owners.

This announcement was made by James A. Colescott, who last year was elected Imperial Wizard of the Klan. ~~And he says:~~ "I've been considering this step ever since I became Wizard," *he says - adding:* ~~And he added:~~ "It means that from now on no authorized Klansman will take part in ~~the~~ secret demonstrations." This edict of the Imperial Wizard was approved unanimously by the Imperial Klouncilium, the governing body of the Ku Klux Klan.

All this is significant because several outrages and crimes in the south, particularly near Atlanta, were attributed to members of the hooded order. And there have been magazine articles relating several instances of whipping and night riding in northern states. Many ~~people~~ will still remember the extraordinary political power acquired by the Klan leaders in many states, particularly ^{the} in northern ~~states~~, and the terror that the night riders inspired in some regions. So this edict by Imperial Wizard Colescott puts the order on a new footing.

WALKING

Do you know how to walk? Here's an expert who says a
great many grown-up people do not. An insurance engineer,
talking to the Greater New York Safety Council, says that a
of us stumble and
~~good~~ many people fall on level ground without even having ~~to have~~
a dandelion to trip over. He said that in New York City last year,
one thousand, three hundred and sixty-seven people died because they
all because they didn't
fell ~~through not~~ know~~ing~~ how to walk properly.

57

EARHART

There is a belief that Amelia Earhart, the famous woman flyer, may be still alive. Not only Amelia, but her navigator, Fred Noonan. The man who says this is a world traveler who once spoke on this Sun Oil program, Captain Irving Johnson of Springfield, Massachusetts. He's the young Yankee navigator who spends an ideal life with his wife and little son sailing around the world in his schooner yacht and making people pay by working on the ship.

The Johnsons are in mid-Pacific on another cruise. The YANKEE, with all the Johnsons aboard, was at Honolulu today, and Captain Irving told reporters there that he's heading for Fiji and intends to make an exhaustive search through the Tonga group where he thinks Amelia Earhardt and Fred Noonan may be marooned on an uninhabited isle. If he found them, what a story that would be!

Oh, just a moment:- Here's a bit of news that ought to encourage us - if we believe it. The European War will be all over by the end of summer, just about the time when the New York Yankees win another pennant and another world series. We have that on the authority of a young lady with a high sounding title. She is President of the International Association of Fortune Tellers. Her name is Miss Selena Perota, professionally known as Gypsy Lee -- but not Gypsy Rose Lee -- the Strip Teaser. Her way of foretelling the future is to dunk a doughnut. She explains that it isn't the only method. If you're a good fortune teller you can do just as well with tea grounds, champagne bubbles or beer suds. But doughnut dunking is her favorite method. The war, she says, will end with Germany and Russia getting what they want.

So says the soothsayer, who peers not into a crystal ball, but at a dunked doughnut.

Hugh, you are something of a fortune teller. What do you see when you gaze through the hole in your doughnut?